

UNVEILING THE NEXUS: INVESTIGATING ORGANISATIONAL CULTURE, EXTERNAL FACTORS, AND INTERNAL RESOURCES IN AI ADOPTION AMONG SMES IN DELHI-NCR

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ABSTR ACT

Organisational culture (OC) is a crucial factor that every organisation must address in order to thrive in the digital economy. The present study investigates the crucial drivers employing OC, external factors (EF), and organisational internal resources (OR) in adopting artificial intelligence tools by Delhi-NCR small and medium-sized businesses. Extensive scholarly literature forms the foundation of the study's conceptual framework. The study adopts a research philosophy rooted in positivism and utilises a deductive approach to investigate the relationship. The research strategy employed is survey-based. Utilising a straightforward method of random sampling to encompass a diverse range of industries and businesses. The study collected data from 196 SME owner-managers in order to examine the representable factors of the entire Delhi-NCR SMEs that influence their success or failure to adopt AI. We conducted the analysis using Smart-PLS 4 to evaluate the relationship between the endogenous and exogenous variables in the measurement and structural model. The study's findings indicate that OR, OC, and EF have a significant positive influence on AI adoption. This suggests that SMEs can improve their AI outcomes by enhancing their OR, OC, and EF processes. These findings can assist decision-making and resource allocation by emphasising the significance of critical factors in promoting AI outcomes and identifying areas where efforts may not yield desired results. According to the study, a key factor contributing to the limited adoption of AI among SMEs is the absence of support from top management. The study findings will provide valuable insights for policymakers and institutional chambers regarding the role of OC, OR, and EC in information system adoption. These insights can help inform the development of policies that take these important connections into account. Finally, the findings would enhance the understanding of the literature by presenting empirical evidence from the SMEs of Delhi-NCR, India.

KEYWORDS: *SMEs; Business Environment; Artificial Intelligence; Adoption; Emerging Countries.*

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